



HR1646

LRB095 23125 GRL 53768 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to honor the life and legacy of the  
4 late United States Senator Paul Simon on the occasion of the  
5 80th year of his birth in November of 2008; and

6           WHEREAS, Paul Simon was born on November 28, 1928 in  
7 Eugene, Oregon; at the age of nineteen, he moved to Troy and  
8 purchased the "Troy Call" newspaper, becoming the youngest  
9 newspaper editor/publisher in the nation; building on his  
10 success, he built a chain of fourteen weekly newspapers; and

11           WHEREAS, Paul Simon served the people of the State of  
12 Illinois with pride and distinction in the General Assembly as  
13 a State Representative from 1955 to 1962 and as a State Senator  
14 from 1963 to 1968; during his tenure, he gained national  
15 recognition and respect as both a forthright journalist and as  
16 an "independent" elected State official; and

17           WHEREAS, In 1968, Paul Simon was elected to serve as the  
18 39th Lieutenant Governor of Illinois with Republican Governor  
19 Richard B. Ogilvie; the pair's bipartisan administration  
20 produced the State's first income tax and paved the way for the  
21 State's fourth constitutional convention, which created the  
22 fourth and current constitution; and

1           WHEREAS, In 1974, Paul Simon ran for the open seat in the  
2 Illinois 24th Congressional District, winning the election; he  
3 went on to serve the heart of Southern Illinois in the United  
4 States House of Representatives from 1975 until 1985; and

5           WHEREAS, In 1984, Paul Simon won the United States Senate  
6 seat, where he vigorously campaigned to save the National  
7 Direct Student Loan Program; he was also well known for working  
8 across party lines, joining Senator Orrin Hatch in co-authoring  
9 the Balanced Budget Amendment in 1996; he served in the United  
10 States Senate until 1997; and

11           WHEREAS, In 1988, Paul Simon decided to run for the office  
12 of United States President; Simon won the Illinois State  
13 primary on the top of the ticket; however, he suspended his  
14 campaign later that year, without any regrets, claiming the  
15 race had been an "exhilarating experience" in getting to know  
16 our nation better; and

17           WHEREAS, Paul Simon was the author or co-author of some 20  
18 books, with topics ranging from important issues such as global  
19 water resource concerns to his last work, titled "52 Simple  
20 Ways To Make A Difference", which was published after his  
21 death; his last book simply stated his long held belief that  
22 "ordinary people doing small things can make a big difference";

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Paul Simon's honesty, integrity, and compassion  
3 serve as models of living for the citizens and public servants  
4 of this State, the nation, and the world at large; therefore,  
5 be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
8 honor the life and legacy of the late United States Senator  
9 Paul Simon on the occasion of the 80th year of his birth; and  
10 be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
12 presented to the U.S. Senator Paul Simon Museum in Troy as a  
13 symbol of our esteem and respect for this great public servant.